EPSON

Product Support Bulletin —

Subject: Understanding and Using ESCP/2 Commands and Syntax

Date: 12/4/91 PSB No: P-0082 Page(s): 1 of 14 Originator: JW

This bulletin provides detailed explainations and illustrations for some of the more commonly used printer commands used in ESC/P2 Listed below are the commands discussed in this bulletin.

Command	Command Name	PSB Page
ESC X m n1 n2	Select Pitch and Point Size	2
ESC (C m1 m2 n1 n1	Set Page Length in Defined Units	5
ESC(v m1 m2 n1 n2	Set Relative Vertical Position	6
ESC(V m1 m2 n1 n2	Set Absolute Vertical Position	8
ESCtn	Select Character Table	9
ESC (t n1 n2 d1 d2 d3	Assign Character Table	10
ESC(` ^ n1 n2 d ₁ d ₂	Print Data as Characters	14

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ESC X m n1 n2 (Select Pitch and Point Size)

ESC X m n1 n2 is the command for selecting pitch and point size where m, n1 and n2 are variables. The variable "m" is used to select the pitch, which is the character spacing. The variable "n1" selects the point size and the variable "n2", at this time, will always be 0 (zero). The variables "m" and "n1" are explained below.

The values used for "m" are 0, 1, 18, 21, 24, 30, 36, 42, 48, 60, and 72. If "0" is used as the value for "m", there will be no change in pitch. If "1" is used as the value far "m", the character pitch will be proportional spacing. To determine the character pitch for all other values of "m", divide 360 by "m". For example, if m=60 then 360 divided by 60 equals 6 and the character pitch is 6 characters per inch. If m=30, the character pitch is 12 characters per inch.

For the Roman and Sans Serif fonts, the values used for "n1" are 0, 16, 20, 21, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 42, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60 and 64. For all other fonts, the values used for "n1" are 0, 21, and 42. The actual point size that will print is n1 divided by 2. For example, if n1 = 20, the point size is 10. If n1 = 48, the point size is 24. NOTE:

When selecting a point size larger than 24 (the value for n1 is greater than 48), select proportional spacing (m=1) for the character pitch.

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"X";CHR\$(1);CHR\$(48);CHR\$(0);"This is 24 point proportional spaced"

Chr\$(27) is ESC, chr\$(1) selects proportional spacing, chr\$(48) selects 24 point character size. At this time, n2 is always zero (0).

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10 INPUT "Point Size";A\$
20 B=VAL(A\$)*2
21 RESTORE 70
22 FOR X=1 TO16
23 READ Y
24 IF B=Y THEN GOTO 30
25 NEXT X
26CLS
27 PRINT A\$ " is not a valid point size choice."
28 GOTO 10
30 C=VAL(A\$)
40 LPRINT CHR\$(27);"X";CHR\$(1);CHR\$(B);CHR\$(0);"These are ";A\$;" point characters"
50 LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(v";CHR\$(2);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(0)

Line 10 - allows you to specify the point size desired.

70 DATA 0,16,20,21,24,28,32,36,40,42,44,48,52,56,60,64

- Line 20 computes the value for "n1" in the ESC X command.
- tine 21 check to ensure that a valid point size was input **If** the point size is valid, the program jumps to line 30. **If** the point size is not valid, the program prints a message on the screen and starts over again.
- Line 30 computes the value for "n1" for advancing paper using the ESC (v command.
- Line 40 sends the "Set **Pitch** and Point **Size"** command to the printer. (Note: The pitch is set for proportional spacing for **all** point sizes to ensure proper character spacing regardless of the point size.)
- Line **50** sends the "Set Relative Vertical Position" command to the printer. This command advances the paper in preparation for printing the next line.
- **Line 60 -** causes the program to start again at the beginning.

NOTE: To hatt the program, hold down the "Ctrl" key and press the "C" key.

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These are 8 point characters

These are 10 point characters

These are 10.5 point characters

These are 12 point characters

These are 14 point characters

These are 16 point characters

These are 18 point characters

These are 20 point characters

These are 21 point characters

These are 22 point characters

These are 24 point characters

These are 26 point characters

These are 28 point characters

These are 30 point characters These are 32 point characters

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ESC (C m1 m2 n1 n2 (Set Page Length in Defined Units

ESC (C ml m2 nl n2 is the command for setting the page length in units where ml, m2, n1 and n2 are variables. The "unit" is usually 1/360 of an inch unless defined otherwise by the "ESC (U" command. Currently, the values for ml and m2 MUST be ml = 2 and m2=0.

To determine the values for n1 and n2 perform the following steps.

- 1. Determine the desired page length in inches.
- 2 Multiply the page length by 380.
- 3. Divide the result by 256 using long division.
- 4. The remainder in the quotient from step 3 is the value for n1.
- 5. The whole number in the quotient from step 3 is the value for n2.

EXAMPLE

- 1. The page length is 8.5 inches.
- $2 8.5 \times 380 = 3060$
- 3. 3080 divided by 258 = 11 with a remainder of 244.
- 4. **n1=244**
- 5. n2=11

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(C";CHR\$(2);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(244);CHR\$(11)

This command, as listed in the line above, will set the page length to 8.5 inches.

NOTE: The current line becomes the top of form. This command cancels any previously set top and bottom margin settings. If you wish to set the top and bottom margins via software command, the commands must be issued <u>AFTER</u> the "Set Page Length in Defined Units" command. The proper page length setting can be confirmed by issuing a "Form Feed" command, chr\$(12), or by pressing the "FF button on the control panel while the printer is "Off Line".

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ESC (v m1 m2 n1 n2 (Set Relative Vertical Position)

<u>ESC (v ml m2 nl n2</u> is the command for advancing the print position vertically in units where m1, m2, n1 and n2 are variables. The "unit" is usually 1/360 of an inch unless defined otherwise by the "ESC (U" command. Currently, the values for ml and m2 MUST be ml = 2 and m2=0.

To determine the values for n1 and n2 perform the following steps.

- 1. Determine the desired vertical motion dii in inches.
- 2 Multiply the distance by 360.
- 3. Divide the result by 256 using long division.
- 4. The remainder in the quotient from step 3 is the value for n1.
- 5. The whole number in the quotient from step 3 is the value for n2

EXAMPLE

- 1. The desired distance is 1 inch.
- $2 1 \times 360 = 360$
- 3. 360 divided by 256 = 1 with a remainder of 104.
- 4. n1=104
- 5. n2=1

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like thii.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(v";CHR\$(2);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(104);CHR\$(1)

This command, as listed in the line above, will feed the paper up 1 inch from the current line. The current print column (horizontal position) IS NOT changed.

'Reverse" paper feed less than 1/2 inch can be performed with this command. To accomplish "reverse" paper feeding requires the following steps.

- 1. Determine the desired vertical motion dice in inches.
- 2 Multiply the distance by 360.
- 3. Divide the result by 256 using long division.
- 4. Subtract the remainder in the quotient computed in step 3 from 256.
- 5. The result from step 4 is the value for n1.
- 6. The value for n2 will always be 255.

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EXAMPLE

- 1. The desired distance is 1/4 inch.
- 2. $1/4 \times 360 = 90$
- 3. 90 divided by 256 = 0 with a remainder of 90.
- 4. 256-90 = 166
- 5. n1=166
- 6. n2=255

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(v";CHR\$(2);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(166);CHR\$(255)

This command, as listed in the line above, will feed the reverse feed the paper 1/4 inch from the current line. The current print column (horizontal position) IS NOT changed.

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ESC (V m1 m2 n1 n2 (Set Absolute Vertical Position)

ESC (V m1 m2 n1 n2 is the command for changing the print position vertically (with respect to the Top of Form position) in units where ml, m2, nl and n2 are variables. The "unit" is usually 1/360 of an inch unless defined otherwise by the "ESC (U" command. Currently, the values for ml and m2 MUST be ml = 2 and m2=0.

To determine the values for nl and n2 perform the following steps.

- 1. Determine the desired vertical distance from the Top of Form in inches.
- 2 Multiply the dice by 360.
- 3. Divide the result by 258 using long division.
- 4. The remainder in the quotient from step 3 is the value for nl.
- 5. The whole number in the quotient from step 3 is the value for n2.

EXAMPLE

- 1. The desired dice from the Top of Form is 1 inch.
- $2 1 \times 360 = 360$
- 3. 360 divided by 256 = 1 with a remainder of 104.
- 4. n1=104
- 5. **n2=1**

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(V";CHR\$(2);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(104);CHR\$(1)

This command, as listed in the line above, will position the paper 1 inch from the current Top of Form setting. For example, if the Top of Form setting is the top edge of the paper, the paper will be positioned so that the printer is ready to print 1 inch down from the top edge of the paper.

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ESC t n (Select Character Table)

<u>ESC t n</u> is the command for selecting a character table to be used for printing where n is a variable. The following table lists the values for n and the character table associated with the value.

n	Table
0	ttalic
1	PC437 (US)
2	User-defined Characters
3	PC437 (US)

Table 1

- NOTE: 1. Character tables other than those listed above can be assigned by using the ESC (t command (Assign Character Table).
 - 2 The value used for n can be either the ASCII value OR the ASCII character (i.e. chr\$(1) or "1").

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"t";CHR\$(0);

CHR\$(27) is ESC and CHR\$(0) selects table #0 (italic).

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ESC (t n1 n2 d1 d2 d3 (Assign Character Table)

ESC (t nl n2 dl d2 d3 is the command for assigning character tables where n1, n2, d1, d2, and d3 are variables. Currently, variables n1, n2 and d3 MUST be n1=3, n2=0, and d3=0. Variable dl is a number corresponding to one of the four tables selectable with the ESC t n command. This is the table that will be replaced. Valid values for d1 are 0, 1, 2, and 3 (see Table 1 below). Variable d2 is a number corresponding to a registered table. This is the table that will replace the table indicated by Variable d1. Valid Values for d2 are 0, 1, 3, 7, 8, and 9 (see Table 2 below).

	dl	Selectable Table	
<u> </u>	0	Italic	1
	1	PC437 (US)	
	2	User-defined Characters	
	3	PC437 (US)	

Ta	h	_	
ıa	n	Ю	-

∂ d2 ∞	Registered Table	
0	Italic	
1	PC437 (US)	
I 3	PC850 (International)	
7	PC860 (Portugal)	
8	PC863 (Canada-French)	
9	PC865 (Norway)	

Table 2

After using the ESC (t command, the ESC t n command MUST be sent to select the table before printing from the new table. For example, the command ESC (t 3 0 1 3 0 is sent (assign Registered Table 3 (PC850) to Selectable Table 1 (PC437). In order to print the § character (ASCII 245), the command ESC t 1 must be sent. In the Basic programming language, the sequence would be as follows:

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(T);CHR\$(3);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(1);CHR\$(3);CHR\$(0); LPRINTCHR\$(27);"t";CHR\$(1); LPRINT CHR\$(245)

Some ESC/P2 documentation may illustrate as many as 22 different Registered Tables. The Registered Tables are a part of the character set, therefore, they are contained in the Character Generator ROM. The CG ROM differs based upon the destination country. For this reason, only the above Registered Tables are available on LQ-570, LQ-1070, LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers sold for the U.S. market. Foreign Character Generator ROMs ARE NOT available in the United States. The following

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page contains a print sample of the Registered Tables available in printers sold in the U.S. In order to print the first 31 characters in Tables 1 through 9, the ESC (\cap command must be sent.

Listed below is a Basic language program and an explanation of the program that will print the output illustrated on page 13 of this bulletin.

```
20 READ Y,Y$
30 LPRINT "Table";Y;" ";Y$
40 LPRINTCHR$(27);"(t";CHR$(3);CHR$(0);CHR$(0);CHR$(Y);CHR$(0);
50 LPRINTCHR$(27);"t";CHR$(0)
60 IF Y=O THEN GOTO 100
70 LPRINTCHR$(27);"(^";CHR$(31);CHR$(0);
80 FOR X=1 TO 255:LPRINT CHR$(X);:NEXT X
90 GOTO 120
100 FOR X=33 TO 126:LPRINT CHR$(X);:NEXT X
110 FOR X=161 TO 254:LPRINT CHR$(X);:NEXT X
120 LPRINT CHR$(10):LPRINT CHR$(10)
130 NEXT Z
140 DATA 0,Italic,1,PC437 (US),3,PC850 (International),7,PC860 (Portugal)
150 DATA 8. PC863 (Canada-French),9,PC865 (Norway)
```

Program Description

10 FOR Z=1TO 6

- 10 Begin loop to print the 6 Registered Tables
- 20 Read Registered Table number and Table Name
- 30 Print Registered Table number and Table Name
- 40 Send the Assign Character Table command to the printer assigning the Registered Character Table read in line 20 to Selectable Character Table 0.
- 50 Send the Select Character Table command to the printer selecting Selectable Table number 0 as the current Character Table for printing.
- 60 If the Registered Character Table number is 0, do not execute commands in lines 70 through 90. This is because the Italic Character Table duplicates control codes and non-displayable characters in ASCII values 127 through 160. Program lines 100 and 110 prevent the attempted printing of this range of ASCII values.

Note: tines 70 through 90 will execute ONLY if the Registered Character Table to be printed is NOT table number 0. Refer to the conditional command in line 60.

70 If the Registered Character Table number is not 0, send the Print Data as Characters command to the printer. Specifically, this command, as listed, tells the printer to print the next 31 bytes as data, not control codes.

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- 60 If the Registered Character Table number is not 0, print ASCII values 1 through 255 inclusive. Remember, line 70 allows the first 31 ASCII values to print as characters, not control codes.
- 90 If the Registered Character Table number is **not** 0, do not **execute** commands in lines 100 and 110.
- 100 If the Registered Character Table number is 0, sand ASCII values 33 through 126 to the printer.
- 110 If **the** Registered Character Table number is 0, send ASCII **values** 161 through 254 to the printer.
- 120 Sand 2 line feed commands to the printer to provide separation between tables.
- 130 If program lines 20 through 120 have not executed 6 times, return to line 20 and start again.
- 140 Data that is read by line 20. This line and line 150 contain the Registered Table number and name that will be used by this program.

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```
able 0 Italic
'#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_'abcdefghijklm
opqrstuvwxyz{\}~!"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^
%bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{¦}
able 1 PC437 (us)
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ESC ($^{\circ}$ n1 n2 d₁ . . . d_k (Print Data as Characters)

ESC (^ n1 n2 d, . . . d_k is the command for printing control codes as data where n1 and n2 are variables and d₁ . . . d_k represent the data that is to be printed as characters. The variables n1 and n2 tell the printer "the next xx ASCII codes are to be interpreted as characters instead of control codes". This command is used primarily to print displayable characters such as ASCII values 0 through 31 in Registered Tables 1 through 9 which are normally used as control codes (LF, FF, ESC, etc.)

To determine the values for n1 and n2 perform the following steps.

- 1. Determine how many ASCII codes will be sent sequentially immediately following n1 and n2.
- 2 Using long division, divide the quantity of ASCII codes that will be sent sequentially immediately following n1 and n2 by 255.
- 3. The remainder in the quotient is the value for n1.
- 4. The whole number in the quotient is the value for n2.

EXAMPLE

- 1. The symbols for the different suits of a card deck (hearts, diamonds, clubs, and spades ♥, ♦, ♣, and ♠) are to be printed. These are each separate ASCII codes (ASCII codes 2 3.4, and 5 when using the PC437 Character table).
- 2 4 divided by 255 = 0 with a remainder of 4.
- 3. n1 = 4
- 4. $n^2 = 0$

In the Basic programming language, the command would look like this.

LPRINT CHR\$(27);"(^";CHR\$(4);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(2);CHR\$(3);CHR\$(4);CHR\$(5)

Thii command, as listed in the line above, will cause the printer to print the symbols for the different suits of a card deck (hearts, diamonds, clubs, and spades $\P, \blacklozenge, 4$, and \spadesuit). Another example of using the ESC ($^{\sim}$ command is illustrated in the explanation of the ESC (t (Assign Character Table) command.

EPSON AMERICA, INC.

Product Support Bulletin -

Subject: LQ-870/1170 Questions and Answers

Date: 10/9/91 PSB No: P-0081 Page(s): 1 of 4 Originator: SDS

This bulletin answers some commonly asked questions about the LQ-870/1170 printers. The questions and answers are listed below.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE LQ-870/1170 PRINTERS

- Q1. What are the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers?
- Al. The LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers are the direct replacement of the LQ-850 and LQ-1050 printers.
- Q2. What is ESC/P2?
- A2. ESC/P2 stands for Epson Standard Code for Printers version Two. ESC/P2 is the newest version of Epson's printer control language.
- Q3. What features does ESC/P2 offer?
- A3. ESC/P2 offers two scalable fonts and enhanced, sharper 360 DPI (Dots Per Inch) graphics.
- Q4. What are the paper paths on the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers?
- A4. The LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers have 4 paper paths. The different paper paths are as follows:
 - Top Feed
 - Bottom Feed
 - Rear Feed
 - Front Feed

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- Q5. Are there different tractors available for the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printer?
- A5. The LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers come with one tractor, this tractor can be positioned for three different purposes. The purposes are as follows:
 - Front Feed Push Tractor
 - Rear Feed Push Tractor
 - Top Mounted Pull Tractor

Additional tractors are available for use in any of the above positions, The Product Codes for these additional tractor are:

LQ-870 C800201LQ-1170 C800211

- Q6. What are the print speeds of the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers?
- A6. The print speeds are shown below.

High Speed Draft: 300 cps (10 cpi)
Draft: 413 cps (15 cpi)
330 cps (12 cpi)

275 cps (12 cpi)

Letter Quality: 138 cps (15 cpi)

110 cps (12 cpi) 92 cps (10 cpi)

- Q7. What fonts are scalable and what sizes can be printed?
- A7. The two scalable fonts are Roman and San Serif. Both fonts can be printed from 8 point to 32 point in 2 point increments.
- Q8. What other fonts are supported by the printers?
- A8 Below is a table showing the fonts available and the pitch sizes supported by each font.

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Font	10 срі	12 cpi	15 cpi	PS
Epson Draft	•	•	•	
Epson Roman	•	•	•	•
Epson Sans Serif	•	•	•	•
Epson Courier	•	•	•	
Epson Prestige	•	•		
Epson Script	•	•		
OCR-B	•			
Epson Script C				•
Epson Orator	•			
Epson Orator-S	•			

- Q9. There was a diskette included in the box with my printer, what is it for?
- A9. The diskette contains Epson Printer Drivers for use with some of the most popular software programs. Below is a list of these software programs.
 - Microsoft Word Version 5.5
 - Microsoft Windows Version 3.0
 - DrawPerfect Version 1.1
 - LetterPerfect Version 1.0
 - PlanPerfect Version 5.1
 - WordPerfect Version 5.1
 - WordStar Version 6.0

For instructions on how to install each of the drivers, print the README files on the diskette and follow the directions listed on each print out. To access a README file, first change to the appropriate subdirectory. For example, to change to the WordPerfect subdirectory, type the following command:

A: <To access the diskette>

CD \WP <To access the WP subdirectory>
PRINT README <To print the WP README file>

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Q10. What printers are supported by the printer drivers on the diskette?

A10. All drivers on the diskette support the following Epson printers:

- LQ-570
- LQ-1070
- LQ-870
- LQ-1170
- AP-5000
- AP-5500
- Q11. What are the available accessories for the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printers?
- A11. Below is a list of all the accessories available for the LQ-870 and LQ-1170 printer.

LQ-870 Product Codes	LQ-1170 Product Codes	Accessories
C800201	C800211	Additional Tractor
C806371	C806391	Standard Capacity Cut Sheet Feeder
C806381	C806401	High Capacity Cut Sheet Feeder
7753	7754	Fabric Ribbon
7768	7770	Film Ribbon
7755	7755	Fabric Ribbon Only Replacement Pack
C823051	C823051	Serial Interface Board
C823071	C823071	32K Serial interface Board
C823101	C823101	32K Parallel Interface Board
C1-93-A	C1-9E-A	Parallel Printer Cable

EPSON AMERICA INC.

Product Support Bulletin

Subject: Quick Reference for Current Dot-Matrix Printer Print Speeds

Date: 10/9/92 PSB No: P-0030C Page(s): 1 of 1 Originator: SLS

9-PIN PRINTERS

Draft Modell 0 CPI	Draft 12 CPI	High-S Draft 10			ILQ CPI
AP-2250	200 CPS	240 CPS	n/a	40 CPS	48 CPS
LX-810	200 CPS	240 CPS	n/a	40 CPS	48 CPS
FX-870/1170	285 CPS	342 CPS	380 CPS	57 CPS	68 CPS
DFX-5000	400 CPS	480 CPS	533 CPS	80 CPS	96 CPS
DFX-8000	800 CPS	960 CPS	1066 CPS	160 CPS	192 CPS

24-PIN PRINTERS

Model	Draft 10 CPI	Draft 12 CPI	High-Speed Draft 10 CPI	1ZPI	LQ 12 CPI
AP-3250	167 CPS	200 CPS	n/a	60 CPS	72 CPS
LQ-570/1070	210 CPS	252 CPS	225 CPS	70 CPS	84 CPS
LQ-860	246 CPS	295 CPS	300 CPS	82 CPS	98 CPS
LQ-870/1170	275 CPS	330 CPS	300CPS	92 CPS	110 CPS
LQ-2550	333 CPS	I 400 CPS	n/a	III CPS	133 CPS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CPI: Characters Per Inch CPS: Characters Per Second

Draft: Draft uses a minimum number of dots per character for high-speed printing.

Elite: 12 Characters Per Inch (12 CPI) **Pica:** 10 Characters Per Inch (10 CPI)

Letter Quality reduces the print speed and increases the number of dots per

character to increase the print quality. (24-pin printers only)

NW: Near Letter Quality reduces the print speed and increase the number of dots per character to increase the print quality. NLQ printing requires two passes per character. (Q-pin printers only)

EPSON AMERICA, INC.

Product Support Bulletin

Subject: Quick Reference for 9/24 Pin Printer Paper Specifications

Date: 10/9/92 PSB No: P-0022D Originator: SLS

This PSB provides a quick reference for the paper specifications on Epson's current line of 9-pin and 24-pin dot-matrix printers when using continuous paper. The 'Maximum No. of Copies" is the maximum allowable number of copies when using continuous multi-part carbonless paper. The "Total" number is the maximum allowable number of copies including the original. The 'Maximum Total Thickness" is the maximum allowable total thickness including the original plus any copies.

9-PIN PRINTERS

Model	Orig. + Maximum No. of Copies		Total	Maximum Total Thickness
AP-2250 •	1	2	3	0.0098" (0.25mm)
LX-810	1	2	3	0.0098" (0.25mm)
FX-870/1170	1	3	4	0.0126" (0.32mm)
DFX-5000 (Front Tractor) (Rear Tractor)	1	5 3	6 4	0.018' (0.46mm) 0.012" (0.30mm)
DFX-8000 (Front Tractor) (Rear Tractor)	1	5 3	6 4	0.018" (0.46mm) 0.012" (0.30mm)

24-PIN PRINTERS

Model	Orig. +	Maximum No. of Copies	Total	Maximum Total Thickness
AP-3250 *	1	1	2	0.0071" (0.18mm)
LQ-570/1070	1	3	4	0.0126" (0.32mm)
LQ-860	1	3	4	0.0126" (0.32mm)
LQ-870/1170	1	3	4	0.0126" (0.32mm)
LQ-2550	1	5	6	0.018' (0.46mm)

* Note: The AP-2250 and AP-3250 require an optional push tractor to use continuous paper.